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U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTY. DOCKET NO. 10/509,702 IT20020005 Enrico Bellinetto

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/EP03/02930

00173 WHIRLPOOL PATENTS COMPANY - MD 0750 500 RENAISSANCE DRIVE - SUITE 102 ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

I.A. FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE 03/20/2003 04/02/2002

CONFIRMATION NO. 2168 371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER

OC000000015151322*

Date Mailed: 02/15/2005

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

09/30/2004

10/02/2004

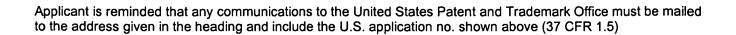
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 09/30/2004
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 09/30/2004
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 09/30/2004
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 09/30/2004
- Oath or Declaration filed on 09/30/2004
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 09/30/2004
- Priority Documents filed on 09/30/2004



PAULETTE R KIDWELL Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 216

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FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)